

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TO 15 AUG PATENT OPERATIONS

Art Unit:

1742 (Examiner M. Andrews)

Applicant:

MEISSNER ET AL.

Serial No:

10/056,131

Filed:

January 24, 2002

Title:

IRON PRODUCTION METHOD OF OPERATION IN A

ROTARY HEARTH FURNACE AND IMPROVED FURNACE

APPARATUS

Charlotte, North Carolina December 4, 2003

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Responsive to the Official Action of September 5, 2003, kindly amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

AMENDMENTS to the Specification begin on page 2 **REMARKS** start on page 3